Linguistic Composition of Maharashtra

1230. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

SHRI TULASIDAS MAJJI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the linguistic composition of Maharashtra is available under the Linguistic Survey of India;

(b) if so, to which year the data pertains;

(c) whether a new survey is being conducted after the 1991 census; and

(d) what are the salient features of the linguistic composition of Maharashtra based on the existing survey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise in view of reply to part (a).

(c) A fresh linguistic survey which has been taken up as a plan project from the 6th Plan is continuing as a 8th Plan project.

(d) The survey for Maharashtra has not been taken up and hence this information is not available.

Origin of Amnesty International

1231. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the legal standing, composition and origin of Amnesty International;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to its 1993 report in which it had held India guilty of abuse of human rights in J and K;

(c) how many teams of Amnesty International have so far visited India particularly J & K and Punjab; and

(d) what action Government propose to take to counter this propaganda?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Amnesty International is a world wide voluntary movement with Headquarters in London. was founded in 1961 when it essential worked for the release of prisoners conscience. At the end of 1993, if has more than 1,100,000 members, subscribers and regular donors in over 150 countries and territories. 4439 local organisations are registered with the Amnesty International Secretariat in over 80 countries These groups are coordinated by country sections.

(b) The Amnesty International has published a report in December, 1993 titled 'An unnatural Fate — Disappearances and Impunity in the Indian State of Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab' The said report was examined in detail an appropriate response was sent to our Missions abroad.

(c) A two member delegation had visited Bombay during 9-1-94 to 16-1-94. The said delegation also had a brief stopover at Delhi on 6-7 January, 1994 when they met the Central Government officials.

(d) The Government of India have all along firmly denied allegations made by the Amnesty International. The Government has also categorically stated that whenever complaints of excesses are received against members of the police/security forces, action is taken against them The Government have regularly issued clarifications through the media and through wide circulation of detailed comments whenever such allegations are made When specific allegations are brought to notice by Amnesty International, we regularly provide them factual information.